

Club Repeaters W6RGG/R  
147.24,(+), 444.200 (107.2 PL)

Bruce Sawyer AA6KX

## Presidential Pen

**Lessons Learned from the Other Side:** The experience of running a pile-up from the DX side is, for me, always an humbling experience. No matter how hard I try or how many times I have the experience, I'm always faced with the realization that I probably will never even come close to the skill level of some of the great ops we hear getting giant scores from places like P4 and HC8. Still, it's a fun experience and an invaluable learning opportunity. The lessons learned are useful not just for running a pile-up, but also for breaking other operators' pile-ups. With the ARRL DX contest coming up in just a few weeks and most of us stuck here in California doing a long weekend of S&P, I thought it might be helpful to share some observations I made while on the other side of the pile-up in ZF8. Most of this is obvious when you think about it, but rarely do we sit down and role swap so that it does become obvious.



**Listen First:** Probably the most important thing to do when you encounter a big contest pile-up is to listen. You can go ahead and contribute to the overall noise level right off the bat if you want to, but unless the pile-up is small or your signal is extremely strong this probably won't be effective. You'll get through more quickly if you first figure out how the guy is operating. Does he have a rhythm going in his pile-up? If you can decipher that rhythm, that will tell you when to call. Where are the stations he is answering? Are they all zero-beat on his frequency or does the pitch you hear vary from one station to the next? What about speed? Are all the stations he's answering sending at the same speed? Does the operator answer tail-enders, or are these guys being ignored? You can pick all of this up in just a few seconds and the information you gain will probably save you precious minutes in getting through the pile-up.

**Getting Through:** When you're on the receiving end of a big pile-up, there are occasionally a few stations you can hear sailing over the top of all of the other signals. But very few do. Certainly the number of people who can cut through like this is way smaller than the number who think they can. (This is a not-so-subtle hint. Unless you really know different, you ought to assume your signal sounds just like everybody else's.) What the DX operator hears is like a wall of noise. Any one of those hundreds of signals is easily copyable, but when they're all thrown together it's just noise. So the secret is to set yourself apart from that noise. In general, that means being just a little different from the crowd either in time or in pitch,

(Pen Con't Page 8 col 1)

## Upcoming Contests

### January

14-15

JIDX Low Band CW	(See inside)
NAQP CW	QST, Jan. p.127
NW QRP Sprint	QST, Jan. p.127
Midwinter	QST, Jan. p.127
HA DX	QST, Dec. p.123
Lions ph	QST, Jan. p.127

21-22

NAQP ph	QST, Jan. p.127
ARRL VHF SS	QST, Dec. p.119
ND QSO	QST, Dec. p.123
YL-ISSB CW	QST, Dec. p.123

28-29

CQWW 160m CW	QST, Dec. p.123
UBA ph	QST, Dec. p.123
REF ph	QST, Dec. p.123

28-5 Feb

ARRL Novice Roundup	QST, Jan. p.126
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### February

4-5

NA Sprint phone	QST, Jan. p.127
FOC Marathon	
VT/ME/NH QSO	QST, Jan. p.127

11-12

NA Sprint CW	QST, Jan. p.127
YL-OM ph.	QST, Jan. p.128
18-19 ARRL DX CW	QST, Dec. p.122

25-26

CQWW 160m ph	QST, Dec. p.125
RSGB 7MHz	QST, Jan. p.128
REF ph	QST, Dec. p.123
UBA CW	QST Dec. p.123

## Next Meeting

Date: Friday, January 20.

Time: 6:30 Gather for pizza

7:30 Meeting

Cost: \$6.00

Place: California Microwave cafeteria

See Page 2 For Details and Directions



## Directions and Map for Next Meeting, January 20

We have a special treat planned for January. By popular demand, the YK0A team is going to tell all about operating CQWW from one of the rarest DX spots in the world. Come see and hear about getting through Syrian customs, setting up a top contest station from scratch, and then being the focus of some the biggest pile-ups ever heard. After it was over, so we hear, some of the NCCC crew decided to go native by taking a leisurely camel ride. This, you gotta see to believe!

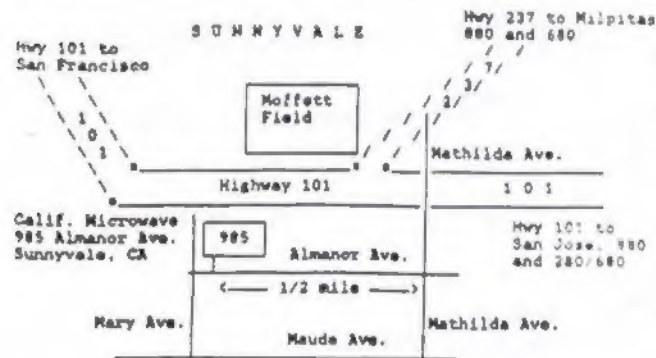
Date: Friday, January 20.

Time: Gather for pizza at 6:30,  
Meeting starts at 7:30.

Cost: \$6 for pizza

Place: California Microwave Inc. cafeteria.

Take 101 to Mathilda (just south of Moffett Field) and exit west onto Mathilda. Turn right at the first street after you exit 101; this is Almanor. Follow Almanor as it runs parallel to 101 up until it turns west. California Microwave is right at the bend in the road.



## REQUEST FROM VY1JA/XN9JA

NCCC has received copies of 2 letters from Jay Allen, VY1JA/XN9JA, telling of his frustration with phone sweepstakes. At his request, they also have been sent to NJC for publication, but some of the problems he has are worth pre-printing here so we can think about them, and come up with some direct help for Jay. He sounds fairly desperate and is sending this plea to us and to readers of NCJ asking us (and everybody!) to consider the very serious pileup problem from VY1, which has propagation problems Big Time..

Here are a few excerpts from what he wrote. "I tried to pick out single calls and work one at a time....I tried picking out 10 from a group.... I tried making a list...I tried working split...I tried working by call area and even going by section. No matter what, someone was unhappy. ...result was a very low QSO rate due to impatient operators dropping call signs...

"I became so frustrated by my inability to control the pileup that I had to leave the shack and relax to prevent stress ...I have done all I know how to do to control the pileups, spent money of a tower, quad, and amplifier to make my signal better, spent time with helpful people like the fine group from Northern California Contest Club and fought Murphy every step of the way.

"Keeping my rate up is important to YOU because the higher my rate is, the more likely you are to work VY1/VE8.

"What do I need from you? I would like serious contesters help me make an operating plan that will allow me to work as many people, including QRPers, weak stations in as many sections that propagation, QRM, and malicious interference will let through. I would like to have something like an agreed method for me to use working the pileups that the main body of successful contesters can support. I would also like help in controlling the lids that won't let me get more than 45 QSOs per hour when a little relief from improper call dropping could result in 450.

"I will not endanger my health for another contest! If it is necessary I will QRT.

"Please (get) together at your contest club meeting....and let me know the best way to handle the situation. The ball is in your court."

Seems appropriate for the top contest club to respond to this. We have the know-how and what would we do for a clean sweep if Jay weren't there? How 'bout "VY1JA Committee of TopOps" Their findings could be read at a meeting and everyone could add suggestions as well as benefit from the ensuing discussions and proposals.

## Bulletin Board

→ This is the first time you've heard it, but it won't be the last. Ed, scientific and serious-minded type he is, is in the tank putting final tune-up to rules and regulations for a contest of Big Time import for all NCCC'rs. This contest will be announced in next month's JUG, and no, not one, not a single hint as to what it all is about will be imparted to anyone before that publication hits the stands. We can say it will call forth a lot of your heavy brain cells.

**The Northern California Contest Club**  
President, Bruce Sawyer, AA6KX  
Vice-Pres/Contest Chr, Bob Wolbert N6IP  
Sec/Treas, Dick Dievendoff, AA6MC  
Directors: Al Maenchen, AD6E  
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de N6IP

## Wolbert's Words

Happy New Year 1995! The second half of the '94-'95 contest season begins this month, as a quick glance at the Upcoming Contests Calendar on the front page suggests.

We have a great deal of momentum going with our (nearly certain) victory in Sweepstakes. What is our target this time? Shall we take WPX again? Come to the meeting and voice your opinion!

**Congratulations to our contest winners:** Speaking of WPX, CQ mag lists the high claimed scores from the CW test in their "Collector's Edition" this month. And it is full of NCCers! Four made the SO All-Band listing: AA6MC, NI6T, AA6KX, and AE0M. The multi-single team at AG6D is holding second place, US. Packet assisted ops AD6E and W6OAT made the listing, and single band ops W6RGG and W6BSY are also high scorers. We must wait until May for the final results.

**Sick of SS Yet?** Well, not so much you don't enjoy our victory, I hope. The NCCC official entry was submitted on deadline and showed NCCC breaking the 11 million point mark with 123 entries totaling 11,041,434 points. Not since 1981 has any club achieved either of these levels (initial Jughead award applications show we had about 150 stations on the air). Congratulations to all of you for making this



happen! Scores received or corrected since the last JUG are show below. We scored an astounding 52 clean sweeps. About 30 ops will win the coveted NCCC cap award, 20 of them with the special endorsement for 100k points on both modes. And 29 stations made over 1000 QSOs.

**CQWW Totals:** We also submitted a club score for CQWW. While we do not have a winner here, a very respectable total results due to high scoring NCCC expeditions. I did not receive Trey's HC8N score or the HC8A total, but I predict we will break 30 million points for CQWW '94.

**JIDX Low Band Contest** Both QST and CQ topped their fouling-up of the JIDX contest rules last year by not even printing them this year. While this is by no means a major contest, it does deserve the attention of West Coast contesters. Let's play in their game so they continue to play in ours. The low band (160 to 40m) CW version is 13 to 15 January from 2200Z to 2200Z. The high band test is 14 to 16 April from 2300Z to 2300Z. The exchange for us is 599 03 and the JAs send report and Prefecture number.

**The "Jughead":** The Jughead Award is presented to the NCCer who makes the most QSOs with other NCCers during Sweepstakes, and is presented at our March banquet. Deadline is extended to March 10 so more of you can check against an up-to-date roster. To enter, send me your SS dupe sheet with NCCers circled or highlighted.

**ARRL 160m Contest** It was a busy month. Our club entry for the ARRL 160m contest shows 251,710 points.



MIKI AND IP-BOB WITH BOB'S EYE-POPPING THERMOMETER CHART OF NCCC GOING OVER THE TOP IN SS

SANTA AND THE MISSUS, AKA TOM AND BONNIE HILLER, FLASHING THE "JUMBLE" FOR WHAT CA COUNTY?





# Sweestakes Update January Scores

de N6IP

These are additional Sweepstakes Scores (full list available on request)

## New or Revised SS CW

Station	QSOs	Sect.	Score	Class	Hours
N6TU	1003	77	154,462	SO-B	
N6RC	547	77	84,238	PKT	18
W6PYX	482	76	73,264	SO-A	24
WB6DSV	410	72	59,040	SO-B	12

## New or Revised SS Phone

Station	QSOs	Sect.	Score	Class	Hours
AI6V	1592	77	245,168	SO-B	
N6RO	1260	77	194,040	SO-B	18
K6HNZ	1180	77	181,720	SO-B	23
W6RJ	1037	77	159,698	SO-B	14
W6SUN	609	74	90,132	SO-B	19
W6PYX	377	74	55,796	SO-A	22
K2MM	334	70	46,760	SO-B	8
W6ISQ	299	77	46,046	PKT	11
AC6AH	194	66	25,608	SO-B	16
W6OAT	184	67	24,656	PKT	
WB6DSV	164	62	20,336	SO-A	7
AB6YL	153	60	18,360	SO-B	5
KD6WKX	167	52	17,360	SO-A	12
WW6D	141	59	16,638	PKT	
NB6L	145	56	16,240	SO-B	4
N6TU	152	51	15,504		
N6IPE	105	44	9,240	SO-A	7
K6BPB	74	41	6,068	SO-A	5
W6BIP	76	28	4,256	SO-B	2
N6TV	6	3	36	SO-B	

Out-of Region Score:

W6EEN	2107	77	324,478	MS	24
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(+SCCC group)

## CQWW CW

Station	QSOs	Z	C	Total	Class
K6MA	281	89	156	188,650	
AB6YL	260	64	91	103,230	
WA8LLY/6	139	63	87	56,250	SO-LP
K6LRN	140	54	67	43,318	
AA6YX	96	31	41	16,992	
W6FAH	146	67	93	62,880	SOA
W1FEA	410	29	69	110,250	40m
W6BSY	242	27	61	55,440	15m
W6ISQ	30	13	17	2,070	10m
KJ6DL	28	15	15	1,920	40m
N2ALE	3	2	3	25	20m
AG6D	1893	137	269	2,102,268	M/S

(+N4TQO, K2MM, N6YK)

## CQWW CW (con't)

Station	QSOs	Z	C	Total	Class
AA6MC	1479	126	259	1,597,775	M/S
(+ NI6T, AE0M)					
YK0A				11,780,000	M/M
(W6OAT, N6TV, K6ANP, NW6P, W0YK, 3 others)					
VP5VW				2,625,000	M/M
(W6RGG + 7 others)					
ZF8BS	2946	93	205	1,899,154	SO-LP
W6EEN	1606	129	264	1,714,266	(SCCC)
(KA6SAR)					

## ARRL 160m CW

Call	QSOs	Sect	Cntrs.	Total	Class
W1FEA	625	83		107,236	HP
NI6T	565	71	4	89,250	
W6BIP	248	56		28,112	LP
K6LRN	141	47	1	13,680	LP
K6BPB	111	26		5,772	
WA8LLY	82	33	0	5,412	LP
WA6TKV	47	22		2,068	LP
N2ALE	10	9	0	180	LP

## ARRL 10m

Call	QSOs	States	Cntrs.	Total	Class
W1FEA	938	115		305,900	MIX/HP
K6HNZ	750	57		85,500	PH
KJ6DL	283	63		55,188	LP
AA6KX	287	52	2	48,060	MIX/Q
AB6YL	133	47		15,980	MIX
AB6YL	133	47		15,980	MIX
N2ALE	4	1	0	8	PH/LP

## Other Scores

CQP					
KD6KKP	114	33		10,791	(Novice)

## CQWW PH

N6RO	506	33	75	154,7647	MHz
W6ISQ	65	16	15	5735	28MHz
N2ALE	10	6	6	288	7MHz

## TARA RTTY SPRINT

WA6SDM	98	28	5	3234	
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## Another Record Recorded by NCCC

IP-BOB announced at the Christmas Party, that the club SS total was in excess of 11 milli-yun points, the first time in 13 years any club has scored that high. Congrats to all.



# Become a World Class Contester in Four Hours?

Are you looking for a new challenge in contesting? Are you an "average" operator looking to improve your skills? Are you a masochist? If you answered YES to any of these questions, I've got a contest for you! Its called the Sprint, and its guaranteed to make you a great operator (or else kill you). Its not for the timid-but then what contest is? The sprints feature very strange rules and are real adrenaline-fests where you slug it out with the best operators around. You are not a "real contester" until you have entered a sprint and given it your best.

As the name implies, the sprints are short and dynamic. The "regular" sprint, sponsored by the National Contest Journal, is named the North American Sprint. It lasts four hours and is held twice yearly (February and September) for both CW and phone. A newer form of sprinting, the Internet Sprint (or SprINT), runs for two hours and is called by N6TR at less-than-regular intervals. SprINT is CW-only.

As mentioned, sprint rules are unusual. You may not run stations. After getting an answer to a CQ, you must QSY before calling another CQ (or answering another station, for that matter). You must send both your call and the station you are working's call for a valid QSO. The Sprint exchange is serial number, name, and state.

The SprINT is even more confusing because of two modifications to the rules: 1. dupes are allowed (after three intervening QSOs) and 2. *you send the name you received from your previous QSO.*

field an unlimited number of ten member teams; a reasonable goal is three teams consisting of thirty sharp ops. NCCC has several times more than that! In fact, I'd like to keep taking second place-with NCCC's

## A brief comparison of the two sprint types:

	NCA Sprint	SprINT
Length	4 hrs.	2 hrs.
Bands	20, 40, 80m	either 20 & 40 or 40 & 80
Dupes?	No: one Q per band	OK after three intervening QSOs
When?	Twice yearly	N6TR calls them with an announcement to the Internet Contest Reflector with a couple of weeks advance notice
Log Submit	Digital format <b>STRONGLY</b> recommended (arm twisting is fierce)	Submission via Internet required*
Team Compet	Yes *N6TV has volunteered to assist those NCCCers lacking Internet, with log submission.	No

Accuracy, important in the NA Sprint, is paramount in the SprINT. In either contest, please study the rules carefully before you enter.

The comparison box above also gives you a hint as to my purpose: guess which club has the most SECOND place finishes in the NA Sprint (CW). Yup, the same club that has not won one-at least not for a long time. Perhaps I can interest you in changing that sad state of affairs? Scott, N1EE/6, has been coordinating NCCC's CW Sprint team efforts for quite a while. He needs some help from you so we stop being the bridesmaid and start getting some action! We can

team #2! A 1-2-3 finish? Well, let's think about that one next year...

Scott must register our team rosters before the contest begins, so we cannot gerrymander them afterwards. If you haven't run a Sprint, I strongly recommend you accept an assignment to one of the "lower" teams. The learning curve is steep, but again, it is similar to your first CW contest-didn't your code speed take a quantum jump between the start and Sunday afternoon? The Sprints are just like that: your operating ability will be remarkably improved after only a few fast hours. The next Sprints are next month: phone on 5 February and CW on 12 February, both are Saturday evenings local time (note: QST messed up the dates). Why not give Scott a call, (408) 379-6185, and sign on one of the teams? You'll be a better operator for it, guaranteed!

de N6IP and N1EE

## A typical series of QSOs sounds like this:

(K2MM) CQ NA K2MM  
(N6IP) N6IP  
(K2MM) N6IP DE K2MM 322 JOHN CA  
(N6IP) K2MM 299 BOB CA N6IP NA  
(K2MM) E (note: John confirms reception of the exchange with one or two dits, then QSYs)  
(N6IP) (after very brief pause) NA N6IP NA  
(N6TV) N6TV  
(N6IP) N6TV DE N6IP 300 BOB CA  
(N6TV) N6IP 148 BOB CA N6TV NA  
(N6IP) E (then QSYs)

And so on. Note that all of this happens on a single frequency. Get the idea? It's more than a bit confusing!



(Pen Con't.)

or perhaps in both. Even if the DX station is using narrow CW filters, you can give your signal a different pitch that will stand out by setting your TX offset up or down maybe 30-50 Hz. I've had K6MA do this to me many times, and it's always amazing to me when I pull Stan's very average-strength signal out of a big pile-up just because he has a different pitch. The same technique will work on phone, although the offset you use will be a little larger. If you can hear that the DX operator is intentionally tuning around the edges of the pile-up picking people to answer, this should tell you something. Get on the edge! And then there's the issue of timing your call. If the DX operator has a tight rhythm going, there's not much you can do here. He's going to answer one of the stations that answers immediately after he turns the line around and your only latitude is in signal strength and pitch. But most operators can't get that tight a rhythm, even though they would like it, and gives you some freedom in choosing your time to call. The trick is how to be just a little different from everybody else and yet still fit inside the window in which the operator is going to pick out a signal. For my book, W6ISQ is the absolute master of this. To Jack, it's probably intuitive by now, but I do wish we could get him to analyze his techniques and share his secrets with the rest of us. Finally, there is the technique of tail-ending. But be careful! You only want to try it after the whole exchange has been sent and you know the DX station has all the information he needs. Send your call once, only once, just at end of the other station's transmission. Personally I never answer tail-enders, even when they're easy to copy. The reason for that is that I'm always afraid I'll lose control of the pile-up on subsequent iterations. I've had it happen, so this isn't an unfounded fear. I suspect all but the very best

operators have that same fear.

**The Exchange:** Once the DX station comes back to you, the difference between a contest pile-up and a DX pile-up really shows itself. If this were a DX pile-up, the operator would already have everything he needed from you and the contact would be virtually complete. After all, the 59(9) is just pro forma. But in a contest pile-up, the situation is different. The DX operator really does need your exchange. You might think it's obvious and intuitive that call zone 6 equals CQ zone 3 equals state of CA, but a DX contest station doesn't see it that way. He needs to hear your exchange. You should stick around long enough to hear whether the DX station comes back and asks you for it again. You might think you got the exchange out in the clear, but there are just too many inept tail-enders around for you to trust that. In the last CQWW, there were literally tens of QSO's I erased from my log because somebody stepped on the exchange and I couldn't get the station back to give it to me again. When you know that N6TR's software is going to fine-comb your log and that each busted contact is going to cost you three good contacts, you just can't take a chance. So beware, and stick around to make sure it's a good contact!

**Partials:** Usually the DX operator is trying to keep a steady rhythm going as he works people. After each contact he signals a CQ and waits while people call him. Ideally, he listens for about 3 seconds and comes back with a full call. But what if he doesn't have a full call after that 3 second dive into the pile? Then he has a choice: listen for longer or come back with a partial call. My opinion is that listening for longer is likely to encourage people to send their call over and over on successive iterations, so I'll opt to keep the rhythm the same and come back with a partial. This varies by operator, which is why you need to listen to the rhythm of the pile-

up. If the operator does come back with only a partial, there are several scenarios which can unfold:

The ideal situation is that only the people who really match the partial call come back and give their call, and only their call. Then the DX operator comes back with a full call and the exchange, the station he is working answers with his exchange, and then the next iteration of contacts can start.

The reality is that about a third of the pile-up answers with calls that don't even remotely match the partial the DX operator is trying to fill. (And please don't try to tell me the U.S. operators are any better about this than the Europeans. They're not.) The DX operator may or may not hear the station he was trying to work. If he does, and can get the whole call despite all the interference, then we're really back to the scenario above. But what if he doesn't? (a) The DX operator may just grab any full call he hears in the pile-up and continue normally. He just better hope he doesn't need to ask for any more partial fills for a long time, because the people in the pile-up have just been taught to call no matter what the DX operator asks for. (b) The DX operator may come back and ask for the partial again. If he does, you are better off not to try to horn in. You can easily end up with your call on that list of people the DX operator keeps of people not to work! Let him get the partial fill. (c) Often several people will come back just knowing they were the one the DX operator wanted and send their call and the exchange. And a good percentage of the people who do this then go merrily on their way, thinking (wishing?) they got the contact when they weren't even close. They don't even bother to stick around to hear confirmation from the DX station. I hear this happen very, very frequently. And this is precisely what log-checking software is all about! My suggestion on a

(Pen Con't Page 9 col 1)



(Petri can't from Page 8)

request for a partial fill is as follows: If the DX operator gives a partial and the exchange, then you should come back with your call and the exchange. If he comes back only with a partial, then you should give only your call and wait for him to come back to you before giving your exchange. The reason for this is that the DX operator is most likely very fatigued. Don't forget that operating a major DX contest requires cramming the equivalent of six eight-hour days of frenetic mental activity into a single weekend having very few breaks. Because of this, that poor guy's tired brain can only handle one task at a time. The first thing he has to do is get your call straight, and if you're throwing your exchange at him while he is trying to straighten out the call sign field on his computer you're likely to be adding to his confusion. Even if your exchange was sent in the clear (an unlikely case), he probably wasn't listening. Above all else, stick around for confirmation on the contact.

**Call Corrections:** On CW, one of the biggest causes of busted contacts I hear runs as follows. The DX station gets that wall of noise and picks out a call. He comes back quickly: "W6XYZ 599 n". W6XYX jumps for joy because he got through and fires back the exchange: "599 3 DE W6XYX". When the dead-tired DX operator hears "599" he thinks everything is fine and as soon as he hears the "3" he reaches up and punches "+". When he does, of course, he steps on the call correction and the pile-up roars back at him. Moral: correct your call at beginning of the exchange, not after it. And if the DX station does get your call right, you really don't need to give it to him again. Particularly if your signal is very weak, the DX operator may be led to think he got your call wrong the first time and wonder why you're correcting him. This can lead to an extra iteration that wastes everybody's time.

Finally, I think I should close with one last warning about antagonizing the DX station. You might think you're just being "aggressive" by calling repeatedly, by trying to steal contacts from other people when the DX station asks for a partial fill, or by ignoring requests for "JA ONLY" or "EU ONLY". You do this at your own peril if you don't know the guy at the other end. In CQWW, I had one N2xx station do all of this stuff to me. I made sure I worked him only when there was absolutely nobody else in the world left to work.



December 31, 1994.

We welcome new member Barry Bettman, WB6UTY, who joined us at our December meeting.

	1994-95	YTD
	Plan	Actual
Membership dues	\$3780	\$4240
Advertisements	\$ 300	\$ 300
General fund contributions	\$ 100	\$ 404
CQP contributions	\$ 0	\$ 30
Non-member JUG subscriptions	\$ 0	\$ 16.50
<b>Total income</b>	<b>\$4180</b>	<b>\$4990.50</b>
JUG publishing & special mailings	(\$2600)	(\$1352.36)
NCCC share of CQP expenses	(\$ 500)	(\$ 292.73)
Awards	(\$ 650)	(\$ 127.73)
Visalia Hospitality	(\$ 200)	
Contingency	(\$ 230)	
Self-funding events (Banquets, badges)	(\$ 0)	(\$ 218.48)
(includes \$250 deposit for awards banquet)		
Special Xmas banquet appropriation	(\$ 150)	(\$ 129.27)
(item approved in 11/94 general meeting)		
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(\$4330)</b>	<b>(\$2120.57)</b>
Balance at start of Fiscal Year 94-95		\$2501.02
Activity credited to Fiscal Year 94-95		\$2869.93
Activity credited to Fiscal Year 95-96		\$ 48.00
<b>GENERAL FUND TOTAL:</b>		<b>\$5418.95</b>

## Re-Cap of Holiday Party

### Last Meeting

When December comes, Tom and Bonnie Shiller are not far behind, 11 days actually, the Great Annual NCCC Xmas Party. More than 60 convivial members and guests were there this year for haute cuisine at the Stanford Park Hotel, and of course, enter whatever new Christmas contest Mand M Claus, aka Tom and Bonnie, put us into. It was a curker. Last year we pinned California counties on a blank map. This year we worked in table teams to unscramble the letters of each county name. Like "Jumble" in the paper. The table at which Ed and Pub were seated got 'em all in short order and put in for winners, only to find the table headed by the Treas. beat us by a few secs! Not to worry, everybody gets a gift--and what gifts! You gotta be there to see what this Santa hands out. From Beers of astonishing label, to gourmet veggie hot dogs. This Santa's elves are major leaguers to provide these, plus a fresh flower for each YL!

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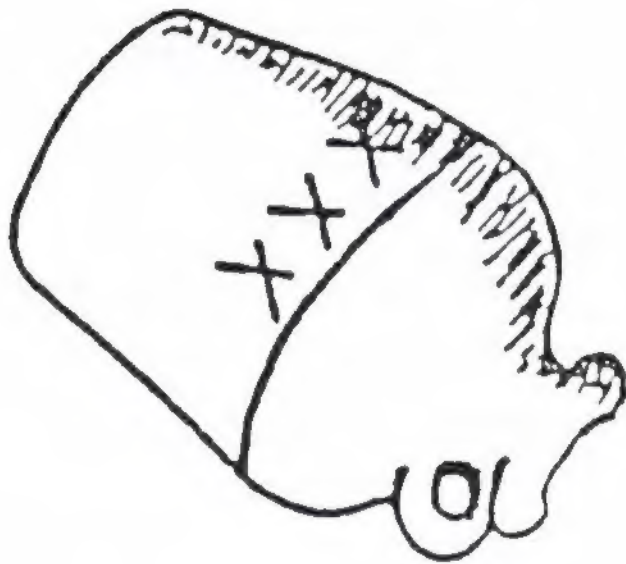
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**FIRST CLASS**



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